



PRESS RELEASE

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City Combats Long-Term Flooding Problems

Nearly \$18 Million Allocated in 2011

INDIANAPOLIS -- As river levels continue to drop, flooding conditions throughout Marion County will improve. However, with an inch of rain expected Wednesday morning, the Department of Public Works (DPW) is prepared to help Marion County residents combat flooding by supplying sandbags at the following locations:

- 1725 South West Street (Monday-Friday 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.)
- Riverwood Park near Haynes Avenue and Crittendon Avenue (open 24 hours)

In addition to assisting residents with flooding now, DPW has long-term plans in place to alleviate flooding. Each year, the City dedicates money, generated from the storm water utility rate, to storm water improvement projects. For the average household, the storm water utility rate is \$2.25 per month. Additional money for storm water improvement projects comes from the city's overall budget. In 2011, the City will invest \$10.5 million in capital projects to reduce flooding. The list below highlights a few projects that are underway and one that was completed last year.

- **Sten Court Drainage Improvements:** DPW engineers designed a plan to regrade ditches and install a new storm sewer system in a south side neighborhood. The work was complete under budget last spring and residents are already feeling the impact of less flooding.
- **Highland Creek and White River Storm Water Diversion Project:** In fall of 2010, Mayor Greg Ballard broke ground on a project to relieve flooding in the Frog Hollow neighborhood. The project diverts storm water from Highland Creek away from the neighborhood and to the White River. When improvements are complete, 80 percent of the water during most floods will be reduced.
- **Mills and Trotter Drainage Project:** This project is currently in design and will use a hybrid ditch system to reduce flooding on the southwest side. A hybrid ditch is a sustainable solution that uses swales and perforated pipe to drain water away from yards and streets and into the ground.

In addition to projects like these, in 2011 the City will invest nearly \$7.5 million in minor improvements like repairing culverts, replacing inlets and restoring roadside ditches.

DPW also reminds residents to do their part to combat flooding. Clogged inlets keep water from draining properly and can lead to standing water in streets and yards. Clearing storm inlets from trash and debris is a property owner responsibility.

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